

Message Text

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ACTION INR-07

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R 090800Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8711

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 2052

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, TS

SUBJECT: NOUIRA VISIT: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON MRS. NOUIRA
AND HAMED ABED

REF: STATE 78492

1. FOLLOWING IS BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON TWO INDIVIDUALS
MENTIONED REFTEL. DEPT IS CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT
GOT HAS NOT YET OFFICIALLY IDENTIFIED TO EMBASSY MRS.
NOUIRA AS MEMBER OF PRIMIN'S PARTY.

A. MRS. ESSIA NOUIRA: THE PRIME MINISTER'S WIFE
IS NOT AN ACTIVE PARTNER IN HIS POLITICAL CAREER. BORN
IN SOUSSE ABOUT 50 YEARS AGO INTO A MIDDLE CLASS FAMILY,
SHE HAS PURSUED HER OWN CAREER AS A SECONDARY SCHOOL
TEACHER. SHE HAS WORKED FOR MANY YEARS AT THE LYCEE
CARNOT, A FRENCH-OPERATED SCHOOL CATERING TO TUNIS'
UPPER AND MIDDLE CLASS YOUTH, AS A TEACHER OF ARABIC.

SHE IS NOT KNOWN TO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THE DESTOURIAN
SOCIALIST PARTY WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION OR TO HAVE TAKEN
A SPECIAL INTEREST IN ANY OTHER CIVIC ACTIVITIES. SHE
IS THE MOTHER OF ONE SON, WHO WAS MARRIED LAST YEAR,
AND OF ONE DAUGHTER AGED 16. MRS. NOUIRA ACCOMPANIED
HER HUSBAND ON HIS OFFICIAL VISIT TO CHINA (APRIL 1 TO 8).
SHE HAS ALSO BEEN TREATED BY CHINESE ACUPUNCTURE
SPECIALISTS IN TUNIS.

B. HAMED ABED: ABED, BORN ON JUNE 30, 1930, IN
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SOUSSE, HAS SPENT HIS ENTIRE BUREAUCRATIC CAREER IN THE

TUNISIAN PRIME MINISTRY AND ITS PREDECESSOR AGENCIES. HE COMPLETED HIS SECONDARY STUDIES IN SOUSSE AND ATTENDED THE FACULTY OF LAW AND ECONOMIC SCIENCES OF AIX-EN-PROVENCE IN FRANCE. HE RECEIVED HIS LICENSE, WITH SPECIALIZATION IN INTERNATIONAL LAW AFTER ADDITIONAL STUDIES AT THE ACADEMY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW OF THE HAGUE. HE WAS APPOINTED TO THE SECRETARIAT OF STATE OF THE PRESIDENCY IN 1957 AND JOINED ITS LEGAL DIVISION IN 1959. IN DECEMBER 1970 HE WAS APPOINTED ATTACHE DE CABINET OF THE PRIME MINISTRY AND IN JANUARY 1972 BECAME CHEF DU CABINET (EXECUTIVE SECRETARY) OF THE PRIME MIISTER. IN NOVEMBER 1973 HE WAS APPOINTED LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE ADVISOR OF THE GOVERNMENT. ABED HAS CONTRIBUTED IN THE PREPARATION OF VARIOUS CODIFICATIONS OF TUNISIAN LAWS. HE HAS ALSO PARTICIPATED IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES, INCLUDING THE VIENNA CONFERENCE ON DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR IMMUNITIES IN 1963 AND THE VIENNA CONFERENCE ON THE LAW OF TREATIES IN 1968 AND 1969. HE HEADED THE GOT DELEGATION TO THAT CONFERENCE. ABED HAS VISITED THE U.S. ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS AND IS BELIEVED TO BE VERY PRO-AMERICAN. HE IS MARRIED AND IS THE FATHER OF THREE CHILDREN.

2. THE EMBASSY DOES NOT HAVE BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON ALI CHAOUACHI OR HEDI CHENNOUFI BUT WILL SEND WHAT WE CAN OBTAIN ASAP. WE WILL ALSO ATTEMPT TO PROVIDE DEPARTMENT WITH ENGLISH-LANGUAGE CAPABILITIES AND CURRENT PHOTOS IN TIME FOR APRIL 23 DEADLINE.
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